

PORT AND HARBOR OF WILMINGTON.

More than fifty years ago, long before there were any Railroads connected with the city of Wilmington, the General Government turned its attention to the great national importance of the port and harbor of Wilmington, and it has been the policy of the Government to improve the channel and navigation so as to cause a supply of water on the bar at the mouth of Cape Fear river of a depth sufficient to float vessels of a larger size.

Congress has heretofore made appropriations to this object, and the work has been prosecuted thus far with gratifying success. I would respectfully suggest that the General Assembly renew its application to the General Government for more material aid to push this work rapidly to completion.

CONCLUSION.

An extensive field of labor lies before you. May you sow good seeds, and may an abundant harvest result therefrom. Great and important interests have been committed to your care and protection. Your powers and duties are so comprehensive that it is neither necessary nor practicable to attempt, in the accustomed executive communication, to embrace all the subjects that may properly engage your attention and require your action.

In conclusion of this, my first annual message, I commend to your care and protection the interests and honor of North Carolina, and in all measures which may be best calculated to develop her wealth and resources, to encourage and protect useful industry and labor, and promote the happiness and prosperity of our people, you will have my sincere and earnest co-operation.

CURTIS H. BROGDEN.

Executive Office, Raleigh, Nov. 16, 1874.